

Tillamook Bay Watershed Council  
5840 Brickyard Road  
Tillamook, OR. 97141

Support for HB 2413 and 2414

To the House Education Committee,

The Tillamook Bay Watershed Council strongly supports CTSO education. During the past few years, we have been directly involved with the CTSO program in the Tillamook County School Districts, by providing opportunities for classes and individual students to participate in project development and pre and post monitoring of our watershed projects. Projects include culvert replacements, large wood structures in streams and riparian improvement. During this process students hear from land managers, foresters, fish and wildlife experts and environmental interests as they consider solutions to the problems being solved. Project development requires students to apply the laws that govern work in our forests and streams to the solutions that are proposed. Pre and post monitoring activities require students to be actively engaged in using the numerous tools of the trade as they chart channel cross sections, longitudinal profiles, pool-riffle-run ratios, water velocity, water volume, water quality parameters (temperature, oxygen, pH, conductivity, turbidity, bacteria and nutrient levels).

The culminating activity is a scientific work sample where the student reflects on a project implemented 5 years earlier, its intended purpose and the actual outcome 5 years later. Students use past data collected during pre-monitoring and compare it with post monitoring data that they recently collected. Final projects are shared, in various venues, with the classes involved.

At least one student a year will expand upon these projects and complete an International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) project. Many students have won scholarships at ISEF sponsored fairs.

Continued support of CTSO education is very important as we strive to educate students for the changing work force of tomorrow.

Clair Thomas  
TBWC Chair  
(503)801-4272